



SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Randy Smith

South Florida Water Management District

Office: (561) 682-2800 or Cellular: (561) 389-3386

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Water Conservation Expo Provides Tools, Tips for Utilities

Industry experts, utilities, municipalities and large-scale water users convene to save water



An SFWMD water conservation analyst provides information on efficient water use.

West Palm Beach, FL — The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) partnered with the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association to host conservation professionals and utility managers at the 2014 Water Conservation Expo and Vendor Fair.

Nearly 200 attendees gathered at District headquarters in West Palm Beach on February 21 for a day-long program of informative presentations geared to utilities, municipalities and other large-scale water users. In addition, there were 22 vendors showcasing the latest water conservation hardware, technology and related items.

“The high level of participation at this event shows that there is a lot of interest and opportunity to use water more efficiently,” said SFWMD Director of Water Resources

Terrie Bates, who provided opening remarks at the event. “Water conservation is an important practice, and our partners at utilities and municipalities continue to take steps to conserve water.”

Speakers included representatives from utilities and the District’s sister agencies at the St. Johns River and Southwest Florida water management districts. In addition, the chief of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s WaterSense Branch spoke about the program and opportunities to partner with the federal agency.

Participants from both the public and private sectors attended the full day of sessions on topics such as water conservation rates, leak detection and utility conservation programs.

Participants also learned about several initiatives offered as part of the District’s Comprehensive Water Conservation Program:

- **Florida Water Star** is a voluntary, points-based certification program that recognizes and encourages water use efficiency in single-family homes and commercial properties.
- The **Water Savings Incentive Program (WaterSIP)** offers funding for projects that use hardware or technology to conserve water.
- The **Water Conservation Hotel and Motel Program (Water CHAMP)** encourages visitors in South Florida to conserve water at participating lodging facilities through a linen reuse program, low-flow aerators and educational materials.
- The District’s **Water Efficiency Improvement Self-Conducted Water Audit Guide** is a comprehensive, no-cost guide for facility managers to evaluate their building’s water use. The guide assists facility managers in developing a plan of action to increase efficiency and save money without sacrificing performance.

For more information on these programs and other tips on water conservation, visit www.savewaterfl.com.

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About the South Florida Water Management District

The South Florida Water Management District is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state – 16 counties from Orlando to the Keys. It is the oldest and largest of the state’s five water management districts. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.